

The Issue Of The Jordanian Mashaayikh

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Question:

Shaykh, we have received a few questions about the Jordanian Mashaayikh and we know that our senior scholars love them due to their high status in knowledge and due to their tremendous efforts in da'wah. However, as our next lesson will be with Shaykh 'Alee (bin Hasan) al-Halabee we are presenting to you this question in order for it to serve as a medicine to the sick heart and as a cure for those who envy him, and hopefully it will be fruitful and beneficial to those who are unaware of the issue. So we say about the Mashaayikh from Jordan (hafidhahumullaah) that it is enough as an honour for them that they are students of al-'Allaamah, Imaam Muhammad Nasir-ud-Deen al-Albaanee (raheemahullaah) and they have spent their strength and resources in defending the manhaj of the people of Sunnah and Jamaa'ah and they are highly praised by the leading muhaddith of our time al-'Allaamah 'Abdul-Muhsin al-'Abbaad and even before him they were highly praised by Imaam 'Abdul-Aziz bin Baaz, Imaam Muhammad ibn Saalih al-'Uthaymeen and Imaam Muqbil ibn Haadee' al-Waadi'ee (raheemahumullaah), and they established a centre in order to disseminate Islamic knowledge and have authored many beneficial books, may Allaah reward them for their efforts.

However, we believe that only the Prophets and Messengers are free from mistakes, and the statement of Imaam Maalik is well-known in regards to this when he said: "Everyone makes mistakes except this one (pointing to the grave of the Prophet sall-Allaahu 'alayhi wa sallam)." So our scholars refute each other and correct the mistakes of one another and what is obligatory upon us is to follow the proofs, stick to the truth and benefit from the scholars. However, it is very sad to see some youth go beyond the limits, bypass the words of the scholars and avoid stopping where our scholars stop. As a result, some youth warn against the Jordanian Mashaayikh and warn from their lectures, ordering their blind followers to boycott them due to their extreme ta'assub (bigoted fanatical enthusiasm).

They also call for the removal of the books and audio tapes of these (Jordanian) Mashaayikh from the shelves of bookstores and within masajid. They work very hard to confuse others about the Jordanian Mashaayikh and when the Jordanian Mashaayikh come to visit us the people of bigoted fanatical enthusiasm do not come to benefit from them and they have the audacity to halt others from benefiting from them and warn against their conferences and lectures. The saddest aspect to all of this is that such youth are very quick in turning against Mashaayikh and are hasty in passing judgements upon others. So we see them raise only those who they want when it serves their agenda and yet they turn against them and drop them like the person is nobody when the person does not agree with them. So we ask you O noble Shaykh for some insight on the Jordanian Mashaayikh, may Allaah preserve you!

Answer:

First of all, may Allaah reward you for your question which was a fair and just question and all of what you said about them and about the scholars of the people of Sunnah and Jamaa'ah was fair and just. I note the statement of

Imaam Maalik who said that: "Everyone makes mistakes except this one (pointing to the grave of the Prophet sall-Allaahu `alayhi wa sallam)." We have found in the history of Islam that some of the main scholars of Islam had some of their statements rejected and refuted but that did not mean that all of what they said had been rejected and refuted in its entirety. They are people of knowledge from the people of Sunnah so we benefit from them as long as they do not go against the Sunnah and the Salaf and as long as we do not follow them in that where there is error.

There is a principle here that people should not be boycotted except if he is deviant or if his evil outweighs that which is good. As for the well-known mistakes which scholars have indicated then this does not mean leaving off totally from a scholar and boycotting him, rather we benefit from that which is correct in their statements. As for that which you mentioned about the disputes which have become prevalent during this era from talking about the scholars and trying to refute them then what I will tell you is that this is not something that is strange. Rather, it has taken place in every generation as this is the way of the people of desires who speak against the scholars of the people of Sunnah.

Even if a scholar makes a mistake, that mistake should be mentioned and pointed out, but with good manners and respect. But as for these people then they show no respect to the scholars of the people of Sunnah and merely slander them in the way that you mentioned in the question and this is because they blindly follow the statements of certain people who speak against the people of knowledge and this is not from the Deen to just go ahead and do this whenever a scholar or student of knowledge makes a mistake as they are subject to make mistakes as Imaam Maalik stated. The scholars in the early times used to refute one another and address the mistakes of each other but that does not mean that they boycotted one another.

So as for the scholars of Jordan such as the well known ones amongst them, like Shaykh `Alee bin Hasan bin `Abdul-Hameed al-Halabee, Shaykh Mashhoor Hasan and Shaykh Saleem al-Hilaalee, then what we know about them is that they were raised and educated under the tutelage of Imaam al-Albaanee (raheemahullaah), and we do not know anyone in this era who served the Sunnah of the Prophet (sall-Allaahu `alayhi wa sallam) more than Imaam al-Albaanee did (raheemahullaah).

It is almost as if Allaah created Imaam al-Albaanee to be in this era in order for him to take care of the Sunnah of the Prophet (sall-Allaahu `alayhi wa sallam) by authenticating narrations, classifying others to be weak, conducting much in the way of tahqeeq (verification) of many issues and we do not know of anyone in this era other than Imaam al-Albaanee who spread the Sunnah in these times as he did (raheemahullaah). Therefore, I do not think that it will be an exaggeration to say that he is the Mujaddid of the era, who revived the Deen for the people. He is an Imaam, who conducted many works and made much effort in distinguishing the narrations of the Prophet (sall-Allaahu `alayhi wa sallam); separating the weak from the authentic and left us with some magnificent works and may Allaah reward him with Paradise, Aameen.

Now as for the scholars of Jordan at present, especially the three that we have mentioned, Shaykh `Alee bin Hasan al-Halabee, Shaykh Mashhoor Hasan and Shaykh Saleem al-Hilaalee, then we know them very well, we have sat with them on many occasions, we have heard their statements, read their books, we know about their beliefs and creed and we know that they always call to good and to the Sunnah of the Prophet (sall-Allaahu `alayhi wa sallam) in relation to matters

of 'aqeedah and actions, and this is something that is well known and nobody can deny this, as this is the reality!

As for the rumours that have been spread against them, then we say to those people: "What are the issues in which the scholars of Jordan went against the manhaj of the people of Sunnah?" If they make a mistake then this does not mean that no benefit can be taken from him at all, so this is not permissible, to not benefit from them and their classes. That's if they have any mistakes, which are to be dealt with in a respectful manner, and we do not know of them going against anything that the Salaf were upon. So then why is there this bigoted fanatical enthusiasm and extremism and why these statements?

If anyone has any animosity or hatred in his heart for them then we say fear Allaah and be mindful that you are going to stand in front of Allaah and be asked with regards to that which you say! As Allaah says in Soorah Qaaf:

"He (i.e. man) does not utter any word except that with him is an observer prepared (to record)." (Qaaf 50:18)

They are accusing the scholars of the people of Sunnah with innovation and the people of innovation gather their falsehoods together to fight against the Sunnah. So it is not befitting for us to talk about the people of Sunnah, and the Salaf used to say that even when they found mistakes in each other, they would try to correct the mistake in a respectful manner but they did not boycott each other or call others to boycott them.

So this is what I have to say about the scholars of Jordan, especially Shaykh 'Alee al-Halabee, Shaykh Mashhoor Hasan and Shaykh Saleem al-Hilaalee. Their 'aqeedah is sound, their belief is correct, they are upon the correct 'aqeedah, they have knowledge and they greatly benefited from the tremendous treasure that Imaam al-Albaanee left for them and taught them about the hadeeth and narrations of the Prophet (sall-Allaahu 'alayhi wa sallam). And they have abundant knowledge, especially in the affairs of hadeeth, and warning against them is not permissible and fear Allaah.

What we say to you brothers in the West is that you safeguard your tongues and may Allaah preserve the Muslims in those lands where there is much tribulation, so may Allaah preserve you. And we advise you to benefit from the scholars of Jordan as they have made great efforts in trying to help establish the Deen of Allaah in those lands where the da'wah is in dire need to be established. And many of the people of knowledge have mentioned the Jordanian scholars with good such as Shaykh 'Abdul-Muhsin al-'Abbaad (hafidhahullaah) who is more than qualified to talk on this issue and he has mentioned them with good, BarakAllaahu feek!